

Hatfield speaks to UNB students

By MIKE MACKINNON
Brunswickan Staff
On last Tuesday afternoon Premier Richard Hatfield appeared on campus in room 102 at Tiiley Hall. The appearance was sponsored by the P.C. Youth. Hatfield was accom-

panied by Dave Clark, representing the Fredericton South riding, and Ed Allen, representing the Fredericton North riding. The turnout was good. The appearance took the form of an open forum, with the students asking questions

and Hatfield answering. Hatfield feels his government has accomplished a great deal for the students attending post secondary institutions. Education and its problems has been given high priority by the government, according to the premier. Hatfield stated his record could match that of anywhere else in Canada and this province's student aid program is also comparable.

It was suggested by one student that Young was offering a student loan program without the Parental Contribution clause. Hatfield said such a program would be impossible. The impact of such a loan system would be great. The

premier pointed out that it is easy for Doug Young to make such a mere promise.

As far as increasing the amount of student aid is concerned Hatfield said New Brunswick has the best assistance program in the Atlantic Provinces. He put forth the question as to why should the government spend more money on student aid and not job creation. The students want jobs waiting for them when they graduate. The average loan was above 4000 dollars, which is much higher than other atlantic provinces, he added.

Hatfield said he felt the government's job creation pro-

gram was working effectively. They were able to make available 2500 jobs. He recognized the fact that this was not enough, but he pointed out that the best possible effort was being put forth.

The premier does not support ceilings on tuition increases. He said his government suggests the increase should be no higher than the cost of living; but should a university feel more assistance is needed they can make the decision to have a larger tuition increase themselves.

Creating new jobs is a high priority of the Hatfield government. Programs in mining development, forestry management, ship building and power generation can use sound progress to create jobs in those areas. Investment in fishing and agriculture should produce more jobs.

One topic of interest to the students was the rent review program. Hatfield was quick to point out this was not synonymous with rent controls. Rent controls would discourage investment in new apartment buildings and would have a disastrous effect. He felt that this plan would work and it would give a tenant some recourse should he feel that he is being abused or cheated. The plan would protect tenants from rent increases in September.

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